REMARKS

This is responsive to the Office Action mailed February 8, 2006. In that action, the Examiner rejected all of the claims pursuant to 35 USC §102 on the basis of Ju et al.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. First, consideration will be given to the claim 1 limitation that describes "an integral panel having a viewing side that includes a front panel surface and a non-viewing side that includes a rear panel surface opposed to and facing away from the front panel surface." In the preferred embodiment, e.g., Fig. 4, the panel includes what is referred to in the specification as a front side, which includes display contacts 42. This is the viewing side. It also includes a back side having contacts 30 formed thereon. This is the non-viewing side.

As can be seen, the integral panel of the preferred embodiment has two surfaces, a front panel surface and a rear panel surface opposed to and facing away from the front panel surface. This means that vectors extending perpendicularly from each surface point away from one another.

In Ju et al., the Examiner has characterized the front panel surface as being antireflective coating 28. A vector extending perpendicularly from coating 28 consequently points up in the view of Fig. 1 of Ju et al. The Examiner further characterizes substrate 11 as being the non-viewing side. The rear panel surface, which is on the non-viewing side, is further characterized as being the surface on substrate 11 that includes pads 37, solder pads 25, 26, 36, and wire bond path 19. A vector extending perpendicularly from this surface also points up in the view of Fig. 1. It can therefore be seen that these vectors point in the same direction. As a result, in Ju et al. what the Examiner calls the rear panel surface points in the same direction as the front panel surface—not "opposed to and facing away" from it, as required by the claim limitation. Not only is this claim limitation not met, the panel orientation in Ju et al. is the opposite of what is claimed.

Because similar limitations are present in each of the other two independent claims, 14 and 18, the Section 102 rejection for these claims is likewise not proper.

Applicant has added three new dependent claims, 31, 32, and 33. These claims even more narrowly focus the invention. In addition, they define the contacts or interconnects as making electrical connections. In Ju et al., pads 36 and solder joints 25, 26 do not make electrical connections. Rather they function to precisely position chip 12. It is the wires or wire bonds 19 that make the electrical connections in Ju et al. Some of the pending claims are also amended to define electrical connections.

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It should also be noted that Ju et al. presents a problem that the present invention addresses, namely in Ju et al., all of the electrical connections must be routed around the periphery of liquid crystal layer 16, which functions as the display. Again, these peripheral connections are wires or wire bonds 19. In contrast, applicant's invention permits contacts or interconnects for making electrical connections to be exposed to the rear panel surface opposite to where the image is viewable.

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-24 and 31-33 of the application as amended is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office via facsimile number (571) 273-8300, on June 8, 2006.

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